GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2031
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
SHIFTING OF REGIONAL QUALITY EVALUATION UNIT
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to shift the Regional Quality Evaluation Unit of Central Cotton Technology Research Institute located at Shriganganagar to Sirsa (Haryana); and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) On the recommendation of Quinquennial Review Team (QRT) for CIRCOT the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has closed the Regional Quality Evaluation Unit of Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology (CIRCOT) (previously Cotton Technology Research Laboratory) located at Sriganganagar, Ludhiana and Hisar and retained its Sirsa Unit which has been strengthened and provided with high capacity testing equipment for quality evaluation.

(b) The Quinquennial Review Team (QRT) appointed for CIRCOT to audit the work of the Institute for the period 1986-1996 had recommended, among other things the phasing out/reduction in the number of Regional Units of CIRCOT. In this respect QRT recommended that out of the four North Zone Regional Units which are at Ludhiana, Hisar, Sriganganagar and Sirsa, only the one at Sirsa may be retained.

ICAR has adopted the recommendations of QRT after approval of the same byits Governing Body. The Sriganganagar, Hisar and Ludhiana centres have been closed w.e.f. 01.06.2002 and man and material transferred to Sirsa centre.

The Breeders of North Zone as well as other cotton scientists of State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) agreed to retain only the CIRCOT Unit at Sirsa.

CIRCOT Unit at Sirsa has been strengthened and equipped with modern testing facilities such as High Volume Instruments, Trash Separators etc. and better communication facilities like fax etc. and would be in a position to handle much more number of cotton samples as were being done earlier by these three centres. The Sirsa centre would thus serve all the SAUs of North Zone viz. PAU, Ludhiana, RAU, Bikaner and HAU, Hisar. The assurances have already been given to these SAUs.